

## STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

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## **November 8, 2013**

**TO:** State Building Code Council Members and All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Tim Nogler, Managing Director

**SUBJECT:** Process Improvement - Community Forums

In 2013 the Council engaged in a discussion on improving the building code development process in Washington State. Community forums are one of the suggestions to provide outreach. The purpose of the forums is to educate the public about the SBCC process and to provide access to the SBCC to address issues.

Forums are listed on the 2014 work plan. The workplan identifies specific tasks including: recommend code adoption process improvements; and to examine the methods of evaluating technical, economic and policy impacts of code amendments.

A tentative plan is to schedule five forums throughout the state beginning in 2014. Possible locations include Spokane, Wenatchee, Richland/Pasco, Bellingham and Vancouver. Council members should participate. A program for the forums could include some history of the Council, and possibly excerpts or video clips of the Council in action. It would be helpful to have a sponsor in each of the communities to help organize the forum.

The goal of this outreach is to form a better working relationship with individuals, groups and organizations that are affected by the building codes. The Council has received comments on the building code development process and areas needing improvement. Some of the comments include:

Provide consistent information about deadlines and comment periods.

Provide access to all corners of the state with the effective use of technology.

Provide ample notice (7 days?) of hot topics and changes in code amendments.